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REPORT

OF

THE SELECTMEN

AND

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,

OF THE

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON,

FOR THE

Year Ending Feb. 22nd, 1862.

MANCHESTER, N. H.
CAMPBELL & HARRIMAN, PRINTERS—UNION BUILDING.
1862.

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen of the Town of NEW BOSTON submit the following Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the year ending February 22nd, 1862:

RECEIPTS.

Amount of Taxes assessed,	$5473 13
Avails of the Literary Fund,	94 38
Ministerial Fund,	58 64
School Fund,	15 34
Received for the use of Town House,	50 00
on Railroad Shares,	28 36
chestnut posts,	7 00
	$5726 85

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid State Tax,	$347 20
County Tax,	662 78
	1009 98

SEVERAL RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

Presbyterian,	$30 72
Baptist,	18 91
Universalist,	9 01
	58 64

PAID THE SEVERAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

School District—		School District—	
No. 1	$32 74	No. 10	34 65
2	65 48	11	65 58
3	44 00	12	35 79
4	78 77	13	76 94
5	56 29	14	43 61
6	54 47	15	52 30
7	62 87	16	99 38
8	277 05	17	22 39
9	76 95		

FOR BUILDING AND REPAIRING SCHOOL HOUSES.

To District No. 6,	$130 00	" " 13,	
" " 7,	212 00	Dist. No. 7, for 1860,	150 00
" " 8,	775 00		
" " 11,			$1267 00

FOR REPAIRING ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Wm. Bently, for plank and for bridge near his mill,	$10 24
George M. Shed, labor on roads and bridges,	7 25
Simon B. Tuttle, for bridge plank,	25
B. G. Mathews, land in District No. 21, for repairs,	10 00
James M. Tuttle, for repairing roads,	2 40
Thomas Smith. repairing highway,	3 10
James B. Whipple, for labor on highway,	1 50
T. M. Harvell, repairing Marshall road,	93 25
Michael White, labor on highway,	6 75
J. N. Dodge, " "	1 70
Wm. Beard, " "	5 74
Daniel Campbell, bridge and road,	10 51
John Gilmore, do.	2 25
S. M. Christie, plank for bog bridge,	9 52
J. M. Holt, repairing bog road,	15 70
Jesse Beard, labor on road in District No. 32,	2 00
Benjamin Fletcher, repairing bridges,	2 00
S. M. Christie, plank and labor,	3 60
J. N. Dodge, do.	4 66
G. W. McLane, labor on highway,	6 99
Ira Gage, bridge plank, 1859—60,	1 00
S. M. Worthley, building road,	40 00
Michael White, work on highway,	3 70
	$244 11

INCIDENTAL CHARGES.

N. C. Crombie, for boards, planing, &c.,	$ 3 94
David Kelso, mason work on Town House,	5 50
J. F. Marden, for loading posts,	75
Michael McLaughlin. cleaning Town House,	1 50
Abraham Wason, chestnut timber,	42 91
Capt. G. D. Neville, for engine company,	37 50
J. M. Gregg, for oil, fluid, &c. for Town House,	5 52
shovel, hearse trimming, and stationery,	12 55
Henry Damon, blacksmith work for Town House,	3 00
J. M. & D. D. Smith, shovel and cambric,	1 54
E. M. Mansfield for ringing bell,	13 30
Wm. Beard, cash paid settling town accounts,	2 00
Sandy Smith & Co.'s saw bill and labor,	10 00
William Parker, stove pipe for Town House,	5 80
R. B. Cochran, services as Moderator,	4 00
D. &. D. Gregg, shingles for Town House,	63 90
Emeline Ober, soldier money to be drawn from state,	9 00
W. H. Fisk, paper for Town House,	3 85

J. M. Gregg, paints and oil for Town House,	85 53
Whipple & Atwood, for lock,	1 75
R. E. McLane, labor on Town House,	7 50
Eastman & Cross, legal advice,	1 00
J. W. Andrews for settees for Town House,	44 04
Mary J. Leach, damage on carriage,	5 00
E. M. Mansfield for ringing bell in 1860,	35 50
G. W. McLane for boards in 1860,	2 00
E. P. Fox for ringing bell,	3 00
Benjamin Dodge, damage on Marshall road,	5 00
Edwin Willoby, damage in snow,	4 00
Stephen Whipple, labor and wood for Town House,	5 25
G. W. McLane, labor on Town House,	51 50
painting and trimming hearse,	10 00
painting guide-boards, and horse hire,	17 19
R. B. Cochran, perambulating town lines,	1 50
G. G. Fox, wood for Town House,	5 00
John Whipple for labor for self and oxen,	7 58
J. M. & D. D. Smith, goods for Dearborn,	1 92
William Beard, expenses taking inventory,	8 25
John McLane, work on Town House,	3 50
William Beard for blank books,	2 29
George G. Fox, non-resident highway receipts,	71 76
S. N. Bell, counsel,	3 75
Niel McLane, work on Town House,	7 50
John McLane, work on Town House,	12 24
James M. Campbell, land for M. road,	7 00
Michael White, taking care of Town House,	15 00
	652 11

SNOW BILLS.

B. Fletcher, river road,		$ 2	70	W. G. Buxton,	1862	7	40
Israel Dodge 2d,	1860-61,	12	15	C. F. Farley,	1861	4	00
George Adams,	do		95	Levi Starrett,	do	3	25
E. & B. Colby,	do	31	65	Benj. Fairfield,	do	3	00
S. M. Worthly,	do	20	99	S. L. Cristy,	do	4	55
P. & J. C. Jones,	do	3	45	Elb'ge H. Parker,	do	2	70
W. B. Morse,	do	4	00	Ezra Morgan,	do	2	80
Luther Colburn,	do	5	80	James M. Tuttle,	do	2	40
Ezra Morgan,	do	16	00	B. Fletcher, river road,		4	70
James McCurdy,	do	16	00	John Morrill,		1	20
J. W. Andrews,	do	2	30	Moses C. Crombie,		1	50
J. B. Brown,	do	1	20	Benj. F. Baker, in	1861,	2	50
H. W. Hopkins,	do	4	26				
Levi Starrett,	do	3	25			$164	69

OVER TAX.

Lendell Dodge,	$$ 1 56	
John Richards,	42	
Estate of Jacob Hooper,	11 86	
Cleaveland C. Cram,	1 98	
John Morgan, 1860,	2 77	
		18 59

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Benj. Dodge 2d, on Collector's list of	1857,	$8 13	
Horace Peabody,	1860,	1 65	
Edward Gillar,	do	1 56	
Heirs of David Lull,	do	7 15	
John Gregg,	do	13 00	
William Smith, highway,		4 00	
			35 49
Stephen Dunbar,	1859	$10 26	
William B. Dodge,	do	2 88	
Samuel Spinney,	do	2 88	
Eunice Noyes,	do	3 60	
Eben L. Bartlett,	do	10 00	
John H. Staples,	do	1 68	
Emerson Johonet jr.,	1859	1 68	
Town Farm,	1861,	20 19	
Andrew McIntire,		1 58	
			54 91

PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

George G. Fox, services as Town Clerk,	$23 00	
" " " Collector,	56 00	
James Danforth, as Supt. SchoolCommittee,	75 00	
James M. Gregg, as Treasurer,	25 00	
William Beard, as Selectman,	70 25	
George W. McLane, do	56 91	
Stephen F. Burnham, do	59 00	
William Beard, as Overseer of the poor,	17 87	
George W. McLane, do do	1 25	
S. F. Burnham, do do	11 12	
		395 40

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR.

The Overseers of the Poor submit the following Statement of Receipts and Expenses of Poor not on the Town Farm, with those of the Farm; and also an Inventory of the Stock, Provisions, &c., for the year ending February, 1862.

RECEIPTS.

Received of the town of Dunbarton for nursing and funeral expenses of Mark Towns,	$23 00
Received of the town of Goshen for support of Mrs. Dane,	46 00
Received of the county of Hillsborough for relief of J. McColly and William Whittemore,	35 00
	104 00
Received for one pair oxen,	$75 00
J. R. Cristy for butter,	3 12
Benjamin Stanley for ham and apples,	3 55
B. F. Woodbury for wheat,	1 87
Micah Lawrence for oxen,	33
G. W. Wilkins, cash,	3 00
John Cudworth for eggs, &c.,	93
Jesse Clement for lard,	1 87
Bradley Jones for cheese,	75
Benjamin Fletcher for butter,	4 00
John Whipple for dried apple	30
James Fields for chickens,	1 00
James Jones for butter,	16 66
G. M. Shedd for chickens and cheese,	1 50
John Dodge for butter,	3 65
J. M. Orne for feathers,	65
James Robie for cheese,	3 25
Nathan Hall for balance on calf,	2 70
John Cudworth, eggs and chickens,	5 35
James M. Gregg, for hide, cheese and eggs,	6 57
Henry Damon, old iron,	26
	136 31

CASH DUE THE FARM.

G. W. McLane, for ham,	$ 3 12
J. E. Flanders for oak plank,	3 52
G. W. Wilkins for calves, hay and beef,	35 97

G. G. Fox for beef and butter,	11 35
Benjamin Fletcher for butter,	1 33
Whipple & Atwood,	19 60
	74 89

CASH PAID OUT.

Paid Whipple & Atwood for rye,	$ 2 00
John Livingston for mending tin ware,	25
A. W. Dodge for seed corn,	70
William Orne, for ox-yoke,	1 00
Mrs. McColly for print and beans,	71
Isaac Cochran,	25
William Woodbury for potatoes, beans and salt,	2 18
Jesse Simons for pasturing oxen,	2 50
William Dodge for spirit,	1 10
Levi Cochran for strap,	20
Benjamin Stanley for labor,	1 00
William Orne for cutting wheat,	1 25
Samuel Marden for wool, oil, &c,	1 70
David Kelso for mason work,	1 00
Levi Woodbury for rye,	3 00
Daniel Dodge, 2nd for pasturing colt,	50
Micah Lawrence for labor,	40
C. F. Farley for hooping casks,	50
J. Smith for doctoring child,	50
J. M. Orne for plow, vinegar and making cider,	1 75
Daniel Dodge, 2nd for filing saw,	16
J. M. Gregg for store goods,	25 04
Henry Damon for plow and smith work,	12 80
James Danforth for medical attendance,	3 75
J. R. Whipple, balance on goods for 1860,	12 25
Whipple & Atwood, balance on goods,	16 66
J. J. Woodbury for labor,	75 00
William Woodbury for pigs,	6 00
Henry Damon for plow,	7 50
E. L. Bartlett, balance on wagon,	30 00
J. J. Woodbury for labor in 1860,	106 37
Sandy Smith for plank and sawing in 1859.	6 82
W. C. Beard for labor,	30 00
Sandy Smith, saw bill,	11 81
Edward Langdell for oxen,	65 00
S. O. McClure for labor,	11 40
	443 05

AMOUNT OF STOCK, PROVISIONS, &C., ON THE FARM FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 22, 1862.

1 horse,	$ 75 00	Lot fresh beef,	3 00
1 colt,	20 00	Lot dried apple,	3 60
1 pair oxen,	75 00	Lot rye meal,	2 50
6 cows,	112 00	Lot corn meal,	1 35
3 calves,	24 00	Lot cob and wheat meal,	3 75
11 tons hay,	104 00	1 meal chest and cheese safe,	4 50
Straw and corn fodder,	5 00	1 churn,	2 00
1 cart and hay rigging,	18 00	1 pair steelyards,	25
3 yokes,	3 50	108 lbs lard,	12 96
6 rakes and horse rake,	5 00	28 lbs candles,	3 08
3 ladders,	3 00	Lot tallow,	1 50
4 hay forks,	1 75	3 bushels beans,	6 50
2 manure forks and 1 hook,	1 00	Lot tin and earthern ware,	8 00
3 shovels,	1 25	Coffee mill and milk pans,	75
1 wagon,	35 00	Wooden ware,	2 50
1 wheelbarrow,	3 00	Flour,	3 00
2 harnesses,	6 00	6 baskets,	1 80
1 sleigh and 1 harness,	10 00	2¼ bbls pork,	45 00
8 chains,	6 50	1 bbl ham,	22 00
2 whiffletrees and drag,	2 25	1 bbl beef,	12 00
1 ox sled,	2 00	60 bush. potatoes,	15 00
1 grind stone,	5 00	Vinegar and casks,	4 50
4 ploughs,	14 00	Lot boiled cider,	1 50
6 m. shingles,	12 00	Lot soap and grease,	7 00
14 fowls,	3 50	Lot garden sauce,	1 50
4 axes,	2 50	Lot tubs and casks,	1 50
3 hoes,	75	124 lbs cheese,	8 68
3 iron bars,	3 50	18 lbs butter,	3 00
3 scythes and snaths,	2 25	10 beds and bedding,	70 00
2 wood saws and horse,	2 00	11 chests and trunks,	9 00
Carpenter's tools,	2 25	1 bureau,	2 00
Beetle and wedges,	75	5 tables and 1 lightstand,	4 50
1 harness,	1 00	3 stands and furniture,	14 75
Lot of lumber,	21 00	2 sad irons,	50
1 pick and old iron.	4 50	2 lanterns,	75
1 steel trap,	1 00	Lot lamps and candle sticks,	50
1 stone hammer.	2 00	2 brooms,	30
50 bushels corn,	45 00	Lot crockery, knives, forks,	2 50
Seed corn,	1 75	1 clock,	2 00
5 bushels barley,	3 75	Clothes line, pins, &c.,	65
4 do oats,	1 68	2 mirrors,	50
7 do wheat,	10 50	2 butter tubs,	70
Salt,	90	2 stone jars,	1 25

Dry casks,	1 62	2 shoats,	20 00
1 cheese press, &c.,	50	20 chairs,	4 00
1 set measures,	37		
6 meal bags,	75		966 69

CASH PAID OUT FOR THE SUPPORT OF PAUPERS NOT ON THE FARM.

Paid J. M. Gregg, for store goods for Mark Towns,	9 03
E. M. Mansfield, for opening grave and tolling bell, Mr. Towns.	$ 3 00
E. E. Dickey, for Mr. Towns,	3 96
N. & R. McLane, for coffin for Mr. Towns,	3 16
Henry Hutchinson, for assisting Mr. Towns,	1 50
City of Manchester, for James Caldwell,	28 20
do Mrs. Dana and daughter.	50
Amherst, for Mrs. Daniel Dana,	12 25
Peterborough, for William Wilson,	2 30
S A. Wason, for freight on goods of Mrs. Dana,	2 50
A. F. Carr, for medical attendance of Mrs. Heath in 1859,	8 00
D. C. Grant, for return of J. Ferson,	2 00
For John Hills,	5 90
S. Bunton, for medical attendance on J. Caldwell,	8 75
E. M. Mansfield, for opening grave of J. Caldwell,	2 50
Hannah Davis, on account of Alfred Caldwell,	2 00
M. H. Bradford, for fare of Mrs. Dana and daughter,	1 20
City of Manchester, for Ziba Caldwell,	8 75
James Danforth, for medical attendance on John Hills,	8 00
Whipple & Atwood, goods for John Hills,	25
N. P. Clark, for medical attendance for James McColly and Wm. Whittemore,	35 00
E. M. Mansfield, for opening grave for A. Caldwell,	2 50
	149 75

RECAPITULATION.

Paid for support of Paupers off the Farm,	$149 75	
Received of other Towns and County for the support of Paupers off the Farm,	104 00	
Leaving a balance against the town of		45 75
Paid out for the Farm,		$443 05
Rec'd from the avails of the Farm,	$136 31	
Due from individuals,	100 89	
Amount received and due the farm,		$237 20
Balance against the Farm,		$205 85

SERVICES AS OVERSEERS OF POOR.

William Beard,	$17 87	
Geo. W. McLane,	1 25	
S. F. Burnham,	11 12	
		30 24

Amount of Stock, Provisions, &c. on the farm the year ending March 2d, 1861,	$1063 26
Amount of Stock, Provisions, &c. on the farm the year ending Feb. 22, 1862,	966 69
Different from last year, less,	$ 96 57

Average number of paupers on the Farm, 7.

The affairs of the farm and house appear to be well and prudently managed, and the inmates well cared for, both by Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury.

We think the farm must be a great saving in the expense of supporting the poor.

WILLIAM BEARD,
GEO. W. McLANE,
S. F. BURNHAM,
} Oversers of the Poor in New Boston.

RECAPITULATION.

Amount of tax assessed, and money received the past year,		$5726 85
From which the following disbursements have been made:		
Paid State tax,	$347 20	
" County tax,	662 78	
" Religious Societies,	58 64	
" School Districts,	1179 26	
" Building and repairing school houses	1267 00	
" Repairing roads and bridges,	244 11	
" Incidental charges,	652 11	
" Breaking roads,	164 69	
" Over tax,	18 59	
" Abatement of taxes,	90 40	
" For paupers not on the farm,	45 75	
" Balance against Town farm,	205 85	
" Town Officers,	395 40	
		5331 78
Balance in favor of the town,		$395 07

The Treasurer makes the following statement as to the standing of the town Feb. 22, 1862.

The Town is owing notes to individuals,		$7866 96
Interest on notes,		632 64
		8499 60
Amount in Treasury,	$ 218 32	
" to be collected,	2703 82	
Notes and interest due the town,	1231 05	
Balance in favor the town the present year,	395 07	
		4548 26
Balance against the town,		$3951 34

In making the foregoing statements we have aimed to give as correct an account as we are able—all of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM BEARD,
GEO. W. McLANE,
S. F. BURNHAM,
} Selectmen of New Boston.

REPORT

OF THE

Superintendent of Schools,

FOR

NEW BOSTON,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1861.

We have had, during the past year, 35 terms of school, and, though I have nothing unusual to report of them, as a whole, I am happy to believe they will compare favorably with the preceding years in point of usefulness. I would by no means make any invidious comparisons; but it is my opinion that our schools are as good, to say the least, as little expensive, and attended with as little inconvenience, as the schools of any other town in this region; and I think it not a little remarkable that no teacher has been discharged before the money of the district was expended, for several years; and it is several years since there has been sufficient disturbance in a school in this town. or dissatisfaction in the district, to demand the especial interference of the Superintendent. And I believe, as I have before in my reports suggested, that there is nothing in the way of the utmost usefulness of our schools, save the want of hearty co-operation of the parents with the teachers, in doing everything in their power for the educational welfare of the pupils.—Yes, if we will have our schools as good as they may be or can be, the parents must assist and co-operate with the teacher. It must not be considered *who* hired the teacher, or from what family he came, or to what particular church he goes, or what are his particular sentiments, or the sentiments of his friends upon any of the topics of the day, save the great and important subject of education. I have confidence in the capacity and fidelity of our teachers, and in the docility of our children; and when parents and guardians will know nothing of our schools save

their utmost usefulness, we shall have taken a most important step in the right direction. A correct *home* preparation for schools is the "one thing needful" for us at the present time.

As we proceed to the individual districts, it will be perceived that our schools are, many of them, very small, several having only from four to twelve scholars; and I think I visited one school the past season, in which was no scholar belonging to the district!—the school at the time being made up of scholars from an adjoining district.

I know of no person in town between 14 and 21 years of age, unable to read or write; and when there are any between 4 and 14 years old in any district who do not attend school, they will be mentioned in their respective districts. Having made these general remarks, let us consider the individual districts.

No. 1.—I am not certain who is the Agent or Prudential Committee in this district, but I think it is Mr. Peter Butterfield. I gave a certificate to a young lady to keep the one term of school which this district has, and at that time she knew not when the school would begin. Having received no notice, I visited the district, but found no school. I learn there are three boys and one girl in the district, between 4 and 14, that attended school, but of the character of the school I know nothing.

No. 2.—Mr. John D. Warren, Agent. The Summer Term, in charge of Miss Victoria Neville, kept 9 weeks with 11 different scholars, and an average of 8.

The Winter Term, in charge of Mr. J. C. Cochran, kept 7 weeks, with 18 scholars; average 14. I think the progress of the scholars in these schools has been very fair, and I think they have given satisfaction to the district. There were two between 4 and 14 not attending school.

No. 3.—Mr. John Q. A. Caldwell, Agent. This is a very small school, there being not more than seven or eight scholars in the district, and all of these did not attend school. The district has no house fit for use, and the Agent allowed the school to be kept at his dwelling.

Miss Lizzie Hall kept about 12 weeks, I think, (I have no register) and did good service. Reading, spelling, a little arithmetic, and very little writing, were the studies.

No. 4.—Mr. George W. Neville, Agent. Miss Mary A. Brown kept the Summer Term of 9 weeks, with 12 scholars; and Miss Sarah L. Cochran the Winter Term of 9 weeks, with 11 scholars; and both these schools were good, having good order, and making considerable advance in all the studies.

No. 5.—Dea. S. L. Cristy, Agent. At the time of making out this report no register has been returned from this district; therefore I can not give particulars as to the length of the schools, or the number of the scholars. Miss Mary Cristy kept in Summer, and Miss Florence Dodge in Winter. I was well pleased with these schools.

Since writing the above I have received the register, and find each term had 10 weeks, with 13 and 23 scholars respectively; and two between 4 and 14 not attending.

No. 6.—Mr. Frank Woods, Agent. This district has been fortunate in its schools the past year. The Summer Term of 8 weeks, with 23 scholars, under the care of Miss Abby Burnham, and the Winter Term

of 11 weeks, under the charge of Miss Sawyer, with 32 scholars, may with propriety be regarded as first-class schools. Miss Sawyer had the advantage of the new house, which must alleviate considerably the burdens of the teacher, and it speaks very highly for the liberality and good taste of the district. I mean no disparagement to the parents or scholars, by saying this school taxes the powers of the teacher as much as any school in town, except the school in the lower room in No. 8, because it is one of the largest schools in town, and there are more scholars of nearly the same age; and at that age most restless and playful. There are two in the district between 4 and 14 not attending school.

No. 7.—Mr. Samuel Marden, Agent. Summer term was under care of Miss Mary E. Marden, 10 weeks with 19 scholars. During my visits to this school, I found the order and the apparent progress in all the subjects taught, fair, especially when we consider this was the teacher's first term, and in her native district too.

The Winter Term had Mr. Charles W. Greene, for teacher; 10 weeks; 27 scholars; average 25. I think there was less tardiness, and greater regularity here than generally in our schools; and the fact that the teacher was employed to prolong the school two or three weeks after the public money was expended, shows the school to have been satisfactory. One between 4 and 14 not attending school.

No. 8.—Mr. Wm. C. Cochran, Agent. There have been four terms in this district the past year—two in Summer, and two in Winter. Miss Mary A. Cochran had charge in the upper room, and Miss Julia A. Neville in the lower room; 10 weeks each, with 24 and 30 scholars, respectively; and I regard both schools with approbation. Some complaints were made to me of a want of good order in the lower room; but there is such a diversity of opinion as to what order is best adapted to such a school as this, I will omit any further remarks upon the matter of order until we come to the Winter Term in the same room. I consider the school a success.

The Winter Term in the upper room had Mr. A. W. Wiggin, teacher; and the school has, I think, given universal satisfaction, except, perhaps, in one particular; and here I am not certain that Mr. Wiggin is accountable, for I think a knowledge of the facts did not reach him.—Some of the scholars from this room, have occasionally intruded themselves into the lower room, and caused some disturbance there that might not otherwise have occurred. I would recommend that hereafter there should be no intercourse between the upper and lower rooms without the knowledge and consent of the teachers.

The school in lower room was kept by Miss Mary A. Cochran. The reading, spelling, and recitations were very good, and discovered an aptness to instruct, and I think the general progress of the school in the various studies was fair. Still there were, I think, three causes that opperated to mar the popularity and usefulness of this school. I mean the great and unnecessary, and therefore inexcusable, tardiness and irregularity, and the want of a strict discipline; the last cause, of course, considerably depending upon, and growing out of the two first. There are very different opinions relative to the discipline best adapted to schools of this grade, both in Summer and Winter. It is difficult, if it be desirable, to keep these small scholars so still and orderly as would be indispensible in such a school as that in the upper room. I have no

doubt it is well to allow longer and more frequent recesses, and to exercise very much greater indulgence in schools made up of such young and small scholars, than in schools made up of older scholars, and attending to a very different class of studies; but there is a point beyond which indulgence and forbearance cease to be a virtue, and our teachers should be careful that in avoiding one extreme they do not hit upon the other.

I am very sorry to report that considerable injury appears to have been done to the house, during the past year, but by whom, and when does not clearly appear. The committee, whose duty it was to attend to this, appear to know or have cared but little about it. These schools kept 11 weeks each, with 48 and 35 scholars, respectively.

No. 9.—Mr. George Adams, Agent. This is a very small school, but there are as good scholars here as are to be found in town. The Summer Term of 10 weeks, with 6 scholars, and Winter Term of 8 1-2 weeks, with 10 scholars, were satisfactory in every particular. Miss Adaline E. Adams kept in Summer, and Mr. Geo. O. Lawrence, in Winter. One between 4 and 14 not attending.

No. 10.—B. W. Hopkins, Agent. This is a very small school, a majority of the scholars reported, having come from out of the district. It kept 8 weeks, with 11 scholars; average 8; with Miss M. R. Gregg, teacher. During my visits to this school, I observed good evidence of improvement in all the branches, with good order.

No. 11.—Mr. Benjamin Wilson, Agent. Summer Term, with Miss Sarah Chandler, teacher; kept 8 weeks; with 16 scholars; and was a profitable school. Second term kept 11 1-2 weeks; with 21 scholars; Miss Philantha R. Whipple, teacher. It is enough, perhaps, to say of this Winter Term, that it was prolonged two weeks by subscription.—Two between 4 and 14 not attending.

No. 12.—Mr. Daniel Andrews, Jr., Agent. This is a union district. There were in Summer 3, and in Winter 5 scholars, for this town. The first term, of 10 weeks, with Miss Emily C. Kidder teacher, was a pretty good school, though too small to be interesting. The Winter Term of 12 weeks, with Miss E. C. Andrews teacher, was not so still and orderly as I like, but the improvement in some of the branches, especially reading, was good.

No. 13—John W. Andrews, Agent. Mrs. Nancy K. Fogg kept the Summer Term of 10 weeks with ten Scholars, and gave satisfaction, I think to all. The instruction and progress in reading, especially, were considerably above mediocrity.

The Winter Term of 12 weeks with 16 Scholars, was kept by Miss Lydia S. McNiel, with her usual success. Three scholars between 4 and 14 not attending school.

No. 14.—Mr. Luther Colburn, Agent. The Summer Term of 10 weeks, with, I think, 5 Scholars, was kept by Miss Julia A. Lovering, and it was a satisfactory school.

The Winter Term, kept by Miss Lottie R. Adams, 9 weeks, with 8 scholars; appeared well at the commencement. But owing to bad roads and sickness, I believe among the scholars, it closed without my knowledge, but the Agent informs me that Miss Adams did good service.

No. 15.—Mr. Charles Poor, Agent. Both Terms of this school were

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kept by Miss Clara Smith; 9 weeks each, with 6 and 10 scholars respectively. I not only have no fault to find with this school, but under the circumstances I don't know how it could have been better. One between 4 and 14 not attending school.

No. 16.—Mr. John H. Gregg, Agent. In this district Miss Mary F. Atwood was teacher, in Summer, 12 weeks, with 26 or 27 scholars.—Miss Atwood was active in discipline, thorough in her instruction, and kept a profitable school.

The Winter Term was kept by Mr. C. J. French, 10 weeks, with over 30 scholars. There were some indications early in the term that this school might not be satisfactory and useful. But I am happy to say, after several visits, and a pretty thorough examination, that this district has rarely, if ever, had a better winter school. The order was good without severity, and the manner of instruction clear and ready. One between 4 and 14 not attending school.

No. 17.—Mr. Clark Wilson, Agent. This is a union district with No 17 of Weare. It has had three terms the past year. The first and second were kept by Miss Philantha R. Whipple, 17 1-2 weeks, with 34 scholars, including those in Weare and this town, with an average of 30. The attendance during these terms was quite prompt and regular, and the scholars advanced finely.

The Winter Term was kept by Mr. Cyrus R. Corliss. I know but little about this term of school, having received no notice of its commencement; but being notified of its close, I spent the last half day in school, and was gratified with its appearance. The order was perfect; the recitations good; and the *house very clean*; which last fact contributes not a little, I think, to the comfort, good appearance, and welfare of the school. The parents discovered a praiseworthy interest by turning out liberally to the examination. The term was 10 weeks long, with 6 scholars only belonging to this town, making over 30 in all.—Only one between 4 and 14 not attending school.

In concluding this report, I will only add, that nearly every scholar in our schools the past year has made reading and spelling a study, and the progress in this important and fundamental branch has been fair in each and every district; in several it has been excellent. I think the improvement, in these or in this branch of the studies, has been greater than in any of the others. A large majority of the scholars have studied arithmetic either mental or written, or both, and the improvement is clearly perceptible. I believe a part of the time devoted to this subject might be more profitably devoted to some other subjects. In geography, also, I think considerable progress is evident in each and all the schools, but in grammar the improvement is less clearly seen, and writing has received less attention, I think, than it should, and the improvement appears to me to have been small, as a general fact.

Twenty scholars made Algebra a study the past year, 20 History, 3 Physiology, more than 50 Composition; other studies, including Geometry, Philosophy, Astronomy, &c., over 30.

JAS. DANFORTH, Superintending School Commitee.

New Boston, March 1, 1862.